

REMARKS

Claims 6-12 and 22-27 are allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 5, 14-16 and 18-21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants reiterate Applicants' grateful acknowledgment of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants have so rewritten claims 2, 5, 14, and 18 in independent form.

Applicants note that the amendment to claims 1 and 17 is supported in the specification on page 19, lines 8-9 ("Next in step 42, the system eliminates power supply D.C. voltage levels to set the semiconductor chip device DUT into an unpowered state.").

Applicants note that the feature of "applying pulses from a high current pulse source to a powered Device Under Test (DUT)" in new claim 28, and the feature of "a high current source means for applying a pulse to a powered Device Under Test (DUT)" in new claim 29, and the feature of "program code configured to employ a photosensor means for detecting photon emissions from a powered device under test (DUT)" in new claim 30, are supported in the specification on page 20, lines 10-11 ("To achieve evaluation of the latchup condition, an integrated circuit chip device DUT is operated in a powered state.").

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-4, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Weger et al. (Published March 30, 2003-April 3, 2003).

The Examiner rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Weger et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse the §103(a) rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. 102(b)Claims 1 and 17

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-4, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being anticipated by Weger et al. (Published March 30, 2003-April 3, 2003).

Applicants respectfully contend that Weger does not anticipate claim 1, because Weger does not teach each and every feature of claims 1 and 17. For example, Weger does not teach the features of: “applying pulses from a high current pulse source to an **unpowered** Device Under Test (DUT)” (emphasis added) (claim 1); and “a high current source means for applying a pulse to an **unpowered** Device Under Test (DUT)” (emphasis added) (claim 17).

In particular, Weger does not teach that the DUT is unpowered.

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully maintain that Weger does not anticipate claims 1 and 17, and that claims 1 and 17 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-4

Since claims 3-4 depend from allowable claim 2, Applicants contend that claims 3-4 are likewise not anticipated by Weger and are in condition for allowance

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Weger et al.

Applicants respectfully contend that claim 13 is not unpatentable over Weger, because Weger does not teach or suggest each and every feature of claim 13. For example, Weger does not teach or suggest the feature: "program code configured to employ a photosensor means for detecting photon emissions from an **unpowered** device under test (DUT)" (emphasis added) .

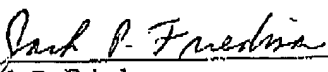
In particular, Weger does not teach that the DUT is unpowered.

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully maintain that claim 13 is not unpatentable over Weger, and that claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0457.

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